motile filaments, our first *glimpse* is generally a passing one, caught during the instantaneous production of a shadow. Or, although our objectives may already be considered almost perfect, that perfection is capable of increase, and we may therefore hope, by a single step in advance, to render the *unseen* of today *the thing seen* of tomorrow.

II.—Revision of the Family Pennatulidæ, with Descriptions of some new Species in the British Museum. By Dr. JOHN EDWARD GRAY, F.R.S., V.P.Z.S., P.E.S. &c.

[With two Plates.]

DR. HERKLOTS, the curator of the Royal Museum at Leyden, has lately published in the last Part of the 'Bijdragen tot de Dierkunde,' part vii. 1858, a monograph of this family, describing and figuring several new species. I shall use his work as the basis of this communication, as far as regards the species he describes, which I shall attempt to divide into groups for more easy determination.

Tribe I. FUNICULINE*E*, or *Junciformes*, are elongated Scapens with very small pinnules.

A. The Cells armed with spinules.

1. FUNICULINA, Lamk.

my your

* Axis quadrangular.

1. F. quadrangularis, Johnston, Brit. Zooph. t. 31. Scotland.

** Axis cylindrical.

2. F. Christii, Sars, Fn. Litt. Norv. ii. t. 12. f. 7-12. Coast of Norway.

3. F. Finmarchica, Sars, Fn. Litt. Norv. ii. t. 11. Coast of Finmark.

B. Cells fleshy, not spinulose.

2. VIRGULARIA, Lamk. Axis stony, tapering at each end. Cells not produced.

- * Pinnules well developed, digitate, diverging from the rachis.

1. V. Vanbenedensis, Herklots, Not. 11. t. 7. f. 7. Hab. ----.

2. V. Ellisii. Elongate. Rachis cylindrical. Base clongate, nearly one-third the entire length; lower part much dilated, club-shaped. The lower pinnules adpressed, far apart, nearly transverse as regards the rachis; the upper ones lunate, far motile filaments, our first *glimpse* is generally a passing one, caught during the instantaneous production of a shadow. Or, although our objectives may already be considered almost perfect, that perfection is capable of increase, and we may therefore hope, by a single step in advance, to render the *unseen* of today *the thing seen* of tomorrow.

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3. V. juncea, Esper, t. 14. Molucca and Borneo.

4. V. Reinwardtii, Herklots, Not. 13. t. 7. f. 8. Indian Scas. 13M

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Tribe II. PENNATULEÆ, or *Penniformes*, are Sea-pens with well-developed pinnules, shaped like a feather.

Dr. Herklots divides the Pens with the pinnæ supported by radiated spines into two genera; but I am not able to distinguish the genera *Pteromorpha* and *Pteroeides* by our specimens, though I believe that I have a specimen of the species which he gives as the type of his genus. I believe the character given to *Pteromorpha* (that is, the base of the pinnule being granular) depends on the state of the specimens, the granular coat of the pinnules being very deciduous in specimens which have been preserved in weak spirits. I may be wrong; if I am, then a specimen of *Pteromorpha* has not occurred to me.

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a 1. P. phosphorea. Pinnules linear, with isolated cells. Esper, 1914. t. 6. Europe; coast of England. Helmore

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